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Former CIA Director Speaks Against MX

Former CIA Director Stansfield Turner is disputing the conclusion of a presidential advisory commission that the MX missile is needed to induce the Soviets to bargain seriously on strategic arms control.

Testifying against the MX at a congressional hearing Wednesday, the retired admiral said that instead of prompting the Soviets to bargain on arms control, developing the MX probably would cause the Soviets to match the missiles with new weapons on their own.

The commission, whose recommendations were endorsed by President Reagan last week, also said that proceeding with the MX program was vital to show U.S. resolve both to the Soviets and America's allies.

"There is a reasonable argument that the United States will look weak and confused if we do nothing in the next few months other than cancel the MX," Turner said.

But there are alternatives, he added, including acting more rapidly to deploy nuclear-tipped cruise missiles on land, submarines and bombers.

While saying the MX should be scrapped, Turner did endorse three other recommendations of the commission: developing small, mobile intercontinental missiles; using the number of warheads rather than missiles and other launchers as the basis for arms-control negotiations; and deploying some small missile-firing submarines to supplement the fleet of large Trident subs.

Turner's appearance before the House Armed Services subcommittee got off to a bizarre beginning when a man tried to place the former CIA chief under a citizen's arrest for murder.

Turner was just beginning his testimony when the man stood up and announced he intended to take Turner with him to a federal magistrate.

Two staff aides placed themselves on either side of the man and Turner began the first sentence of his testimony, which the demonstrator promptly interrupted.

The man then tried to take hold of Turner, but the retired admiral pulled away and was escorted to a side room while the man was led out of the hearing room and turned over to Capitol police.

The man has been seen at several congressional hearings this year trying to approach Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, but police have kept him away.

Police identified the man as Harry J. Zain, 29, of Washington. He was charged with disruption of a congressional committee and simple assault.

Sgt. Karen Magee said Zain claimed he was trying to make "a citizen's arrest."